

REMARKS

Favorable consideration and allowance are requested for claims 46-64 in view of the following remarks.

Status of the Application

Claims 46-64 are pending in this application. Claims 1-45 have been cancelled. Claims 51 and 62 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 2. Claims 54-56, 59, and 62-64 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,592,159 A to Tsai *et al.* (the "Tsai patent"). Claims 46-53 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Tsai patent in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,700,912 A to Corbett (the "Corbett patent"). Claims 57, 58, 60, and 61 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Tsai patent in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,196,822 A to Bertin *et al.* (the "Bertin patent"). Claims 51, 54, and 62 have been amended.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 2

According to the Office Action, claims 51 and 62 are indefinite. In response, these claims have been amended, and, therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

According to the Office Action, the Tsai patent anticipates the subject matter of claims 54-56, 59, and 62-64. In response, Applicant respectfully submits that the Tsai patent neither discloses nor suggests the introduction of a higher-specific-density fluid to increase a deceleration or acceleration effect.

In particular, the Tsai patent discloses the following:

Referring FIG. 2, the supply device 10 is provided for conveying water to the first, second and third nozzles 414, 424 and 301 (not shown) and comprises a pressure chamber 12 having water 106 and air 105 contained therein. A compressor 101 is mounted on the pressure chamber 12 for pressurizing the air 105 therein *so as to compress and urge the water* received in the pressure chamber 12 *into the first, second and third nozzles* 413, 424 and 301 via the conveying tube 20. . . . Referring to FIGS. 1, 3 and 6, a plurality of buffer devices 80 each include a contact board 8011 mounted on an underside of the *flight vehicle 90 for being supported by means of the jet of pressurized water projected from the third nozzle 301 of the support water jet generator 30.*

Tsai patent, col. 2, line 52 to col. 3, line 3 (emphases added).

Thus, in the approach disclosed in the Tsai patent, the air is only used for compressing the water and for urging it to be projected from a nozzle. The air is not introduced into the water. Therefore, the air in the Tsai patent is not a provided fluid current that is enriched, if necessary, by the water. For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejections of claims 54-56, 59, and 62-64 be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

According to the Office Action, the combination of the Tsai and Corbett patents renders obvious the subject matter of claims 46-53. In response, Applicant respectfully submits that the manner of enriching a fluid current recited in these claims is neither disclosed nor suggested by the Tsai and Corbett patents, either alone or in combination.

As stated above, the Tsai patent does not disclose or suggest the introduction of a higher-specific-density fluid to increase a deceleration or

acceleration effect. Further, the Corbett patent merely states that "a salt spray is introduced into the column and a laser source resonates the crystals of the salt thereby causing energy to be radiated from the column which may be detected and displayed by an approaching aircraft." Corbett patent, abstract. Corbett, therefore, only suggests introducing a small amount of salt into the air current for the purpose of enabling an approaching aircraft to detect the air current.

For the reasons stated above, Applicant respectfully submits that the Tsai and Corbett patents, either alone or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest the subject matter of claims 46-53. In particular, there is no suggestion in the Corbett patent that the use of salt spray for a completely different purpose than that recited in the claims could be used to create the deceleration/acceleration effect of the claims. Therefore, Applicant believes that claims 46-53 are in condition for allowance.

The Office Action also stated that the combination of the Tsai patent (as applied to claim 54) and the Bertin patent renders obvious the subject matter of claims 57, 58, 60, and 61. For the reasons stated above, the Tsai patent neither discloses nor suggests the subject matter of claim 54. As the Bertin patent neither discloses nor suggests the subject matter of claim 54 missing from the Tsai patent, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 57, 58, 60, and 61 also be withdrawn.

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If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #102167.57012US).

Respectfully submitted,

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